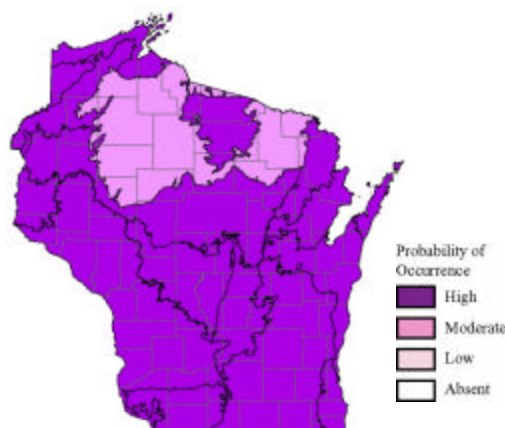


## Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*)

### Species Assessment Scores\*

State rarity:	2
State threats:	3
State population trend:	4
Global abundance:	2
Global distribution:	3
Global threats:	3
Global population trend:	4
Mean Risk Score:	3
Area of importance:	5

\* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



### Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

### Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Sand Plains	Oak barrens
Central Sand Plains	Pine barrens
Central Sand Plains	Sand prairie
Northeast Sands	Bracken grassland
Northeast Sands	Pine barrens
Northwest Sands	Pine barrens
Southeast Glacial Plains	Oak opening
Southwest Savanna	Oak opening
Western Coulee and Ridges	Oak barrens
Western Coulee and Ridges	Oak opening
Western Coulee and Ridges	Sand prairie

### Threats and Issues

- Loss of barrens and early-seral shrublands due to lack of fire/disturbance.
- Home and rural development is probably impacting this species indirectly by increasing the amount of cats and other predators on the landscape.
- Conversion of traditional farms to intensive agriculture removes woody edges and hedgerows or makes them less suitable.
- The conversion of barrens habitat due to fire suppression and woody encroachment or tree planting can eventually render habitat unsuitable.
- It is not known how this species responds to invasive exotic shrubs.

### Priority Conservation Actions

- Most of the population probably exists on private farms, etc. Need to devise conservation actions that accomodate barrens, savanna, and shrublands restoration on a smaller, local scale.

- More research designed at understanding limiting factors for this species including rural development, invasive exotic shrubs, and predators.
- Restoration of conifer/oak barrens and shrub habitats through fire and/or timber management.
- Training for private lands initiatives, farmers, etc. to manage for shrublands and hedgerows on small sites.